

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at NCsupport@lacity.org.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: East Hollywood Neighborhood Council (EHNC)

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The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 9/20/2021

Type of NC Board Action: Against

Impact Information

Date: 09/21/2021

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 21-0885

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The East Hollywood Neighborhood Council (EHNC) urges Mayor Garcetti to veto the resolution opposed to AB 339 and allow time for robust public comment and community impact statements from neighborhood councils. The Covid-19 pandemic is in its fourth wave and just over 50% of Californians are vaccinated. Our constituents must have a remote option for participation in meetings of the City Council, LA County Board of Supervisors and other legislative bodies. On August 10, 2021, the City Council voted on a resolution that affects the ability of the 3.9 million Angelenos to engage in public comment without having allowed for meaningful community input from Angelenos. The City Council voted to oppose the state bill AB 339, which would ensure continued remote access to City Council meetings through December 2022. The City Council utilized rule 54 to rush a vote without any opportunity for it to be heard in committee. Thus neighborhood councils had no opportunity to weigh in through the usual process of submitting Community Impact Statements in support or opposition, and the public did not have the opportunity to file written public comment or speak at the committee meetings on an issue impacting their ability to have a say in city government. There was no urgent need to utilize Rule 54 to vote on a resolution within days of issuance of the August 5th Chief Legislative Analyst report since AB 339 was still in the committee process at the state legislature. The resolution should have been heard in the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee and/or the Art Parks Health Education and Neighborhoods Committee as the continuation of remote option for public participation is crucial to the function of Neighborhood Councils. We urge Mayor Garcetti to veto the resolution opposed to AB 339 and allow for robust public comment and community impact statements from neighborhood councils.



Los Angeles City Council
City Hall
200 N. Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

September 20, 2021

Re: [AB 339](#) (LEE) / GOVERNMENT CODE / PUBLIC MEETINGS / AMENDMENT
(Council File [21-0885](#))

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The East Hollywood Neighborhood Council (EHNC) urges Mayor Garcetti to veto the resolution opposed to AB 339 and allow time for robust public comment and community impact statements from neighborhood councils. The Covid-19 pandemic is in its fourth wave and just over 50% of Californians are vaccinated. Our constituents must have a remote option for participation in meetings of the City Council, LA County Board of Supervisors and other legislative bodies.

On August 10, 2021, the City Council voted on a resolution that affects the ability of the 3.9 million Angelenos to engage in public comment without having allowed for meaningful community input from Angelenos. The City Council voted to oppose the state bill AB 339, which would ensure continued remote access to City Council meetings through December 2022.

The City Council utilized rule 54 to rush a vote without any opportunity for it to be heard in committee. Thus neighborhood councils had no opportunity to weigh in through the usual process of submitting Community Impact Statements in support or opposition, and the public did not have the opportunity to file written public comment or speak at the committee meetings on an issue impacting their ability to have a say in city government.

There was no urgent need to utilize Rule 54 to vote on a resolution within days of issuance of the August 5th Chief Legislative Analyst report since AB 339 was still in the committee process at the state legislature. The resolution should have been heard in the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee and/or the Art Parks Health Education and Neighborhoods Committee as the continuation of remote option for public participation is crucial to the function of Neighborhood Councils.

The City Council's vote inhibits the ability of engaged citizens who wish to speak about the effects of proposed legislation on their communities. Importantly, those with disabilities, without access to transit, who provide childcare, who work during the day have all been extended greater access to make their voices heard via telephonic comment during the pandemic. Allowing City Council and other municipalities to cut off remote access during a pandemic flies in the face of democratic principles and basic rights to access. Democracy is messy, but it is how we ensure that the legislation serves the many types of constituents the legislators serve.



We urge Mayor Garcetti to veto the resolution opposed to AB 339 and allow for robust public comment and community impact statements from neighborhood councils.

Sincerely,

Ninoska Suarez

Ninoska Suarez
President
East Hollywood Neighborhood Council